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Attorney Docket # 48900-22

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Albert J. KURPIS

Serial No.: 10/716,150

Filed: November 17, 2003

For: Absorbent Neck Shield

Examiner: Vanatta, A. B.
Group Art: 3765

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October 29, 2004
(Date of Deposit)

Teodor J. Holmsen
Name of applicant, assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

October 29, 2004
Date of Signature

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

11/02/2004 SZEWDIE1 00000009 10716150

01 FE:1806 SIR: 180.00 OP

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A.

The listed International Search Report which issued in the corresponding International PCT application, cited six (6) U.S. references which the Examiner has already considered (as noted in Form PTO 892 in the Office Action dated September 15, 2004), and two (2) U.S. references which the Examiner may not have considered, copies of which are enclosed for the Examiner's consideration.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being made under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), i.e., subsequent to the mailing of the first Office Action on the merits and before the mailing of a final Action or a Notice of Allowance, and is accompanied by the following statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (c)(1):

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication received from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

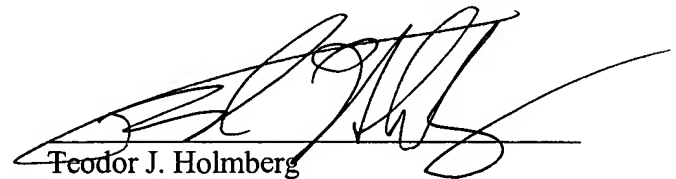
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant reserves the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

It is respectfully requested that the enclosed information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Because this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1), a check for the \$180.00 fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(p) is enclosed; however, if any additional fees or charges are required at this time in connection with this application, please charge them (and credit any overpayment) to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

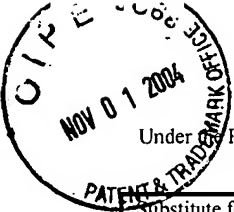
Respectfully submitted,
COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

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Dated: October 29, 2004



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/716,150
		Filing Date	November 17, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Albert J. KURPIS
		Art Unit	3765
		Examiner Name	Vanatta, A. B.
Sheet	1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number	48900-22

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind-Code ² (if known)			
		US-2,116,685	10-13-1937	Nicolet	
		US-5,555,561	09-17-1996	Plachta et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind-Code ⁵ (if known)				

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		International Search Report dated October 12, 2004 for International Application No. PCT/US03/36834	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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